

\*----- ST REPORT INTERNATIONAL ONLINE MAGAZINE -----\*  
"The Original 16/32bit Online Magazine"  
from  
STR Publishing  
"

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Publisher - Editor

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- The Editor's Desk	- CPU Report	- PORTFOLIO NEWS
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- GFA-BASIC TOOLKIT	- LEGAL RIGHTS III	- STR Confidential

-\* FORBES "FRIGHTENINGLY ACCURATE!" \*-  
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ST REPORT INTERNATIONAL ONLINE MAGAZINE  
The Original \* Independent \* Online Magazine  
-\* FEATURING WEEKLY \*-

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STReport's BBS, The Bounty, invites BBS systems, worldwide, to participate in the Fido/TurboNet/Atari F-Net Mail Network. You may also call our BBS direct at 904-786-4176, and enjoy the excitement of exchanging information relative to the Atari and other computers worldwide through the use of excellent International Messaging Networks. SysOps, worldwide, are quite

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WHAT'S NEW IN THE ATARI FORUMS (July 24)

VENDOR LISTING UPDATE BEING PREPARED...

We're preparing an update to the VENDOR.DAT file that works with the VENDOR.ACC utility. (This is a quick and easy database of current vendors in the Atari community that runs as a .PRG or .ACC and written by Bill Aycok.)

If you have any additions or corrections to our current information, please post a message or send an Email to Ron Luks 76703,254 or Bill Aycok 76703,406 as soon as possible.

INVISION ELITE

INVISION Elite is a black and white paint program. It has been in intensive development over the past year and a half and is now being introduced to the market from Power Thought Software. Download the following files from LIBRARY 10 of the Atari Arts Forum (GO ATARIARTS):

INVIPR.TXT - Announcement of INVISION ELITE, mono paint program  
INVDM2.ARC - Demo of mono paint program, part 2 of 2  
INVDM1.ARC - Demo of mono paint program, part 1 of 2  
NEW IN ATARI VENDORS FORUM (GO ATARIVEN)

Now available in LIBRARY 17 -- the newest Calamus SL demo. A big download, but worth it.

Also look in Library 11 for PG22B.LZH, a patch for version 2.1 of PageStream updating it to version 2.2B. Brought to you by the folks at Soft-Logik.

The folks from CODEHEAD TECHNOLOGIES have uploaded a series of files that



forward with such absurdities, it will only further substantiate our sincere contentions; they are truly engaged in a campaign of utter and complete disinformation. Obviously, showing absolutely no respect for the intelligence of the userbase. For Atari to have any kind of a shot at a decent future, the games, politics, and favoritism must be brought to a screeching and complete halt. Jack is back and is in full control of the company. Believe this... the frivolity and enemy cultivation by a few at Atari is going to have to halt or, its all over but the crying. Atari \_needs\_ all the friends it can get.

In closing, its far more important to realize Atari's now embarking on a venue of new product releases. Products like the Falcon and FSMGDOS that will use Bitstream Fonts. Its all very exciting. Now, if only we can get the message across to certain people in Sunnyvale to use their energies and budgets to promote the new product lines and once and for all, forget the silly politics and vendettas. STReport has always been highly supportive of the Atari hardware lines, its ease of use and reliability. Our differences with Atari can be narrowed down to only a person or two.

STReport's overall goal is to establish beyond a doubt, one basic fact we support Atari, its hardware and its userbase. We will not however, sell the readers short for a moment. STReport wants nothing more than to be among those witnessing the grand resurgence of Atari in the worldwide computer marketplace. This can only be done with the confidence of the users and the continued support of \_all\_ loyal Atarians. STReport believes the userbase, worldwide, is willing to forget the ills of the past and is ready to build the future along with Atari. Now, the big question; Is Atari ready? Only,, by their policy making decisions, production, marketing and promotional efforts along with their willingness to begin anew will we know.

Thank you for your strong support!

Ralph @ STReport International Online Magazine

THE STORM IS COMING!

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STReport's Staff

DEDICATED TO SERVING YOU!

\*\*\*\*\*

Publisher - Editor

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Roger D. Stevens

AMIGA DIVISION

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MAC DIVISION

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via E-Mail to:

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> CPU STATUS REPORT                      LATE BREAKING INDUSTRY-WIDE NEWS  
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Issue #30

Compiled by: Lloyd E. Pulley, Sr.

-- EA to Develop Games for Sega SD System

Electronic Arts (EA) has announced it has signed an agreement with video game maker Sega. The agreement allows EA to continue to publish game cartridges for the Sega Genesis home game system and also allows for the publishing of software for the new Sega compact disc (CD) system planned for US introduction in November of this year.

Sega President Larry Probst said in a prepared statement: "Sega CD has a chance to become the first successful CD peripheral for interactive entertainment and enhance 16-bit market growth for several more years."

#### -- IBM to Promote 486SLC2 Chip on TV

IBM's new 486SLC2 microprocessor - which is said to nearly quadruple performance of mid-range PCs - will be launched with a five week TV campaign and a print campaign in PC trade publications. The TV spots will include 30-second commercials on the Olympics, "Nightline," "Good Morning America" and the Professional Golfers Association championship.

The campaign features a race car and includes a headline reading, "This PS/2 SLC is so fast, it comes with its own speeding ticket."

#### -- Companies to Eliminate CFC Usage

Apple Computer Inc. announced today it has eliminated the use of ozone-depleting chlorofluorocarbons -- better known as CFCs -- to clean electronic assemblies and manufacturing equipment. Sources say that Apple was responsible for dumping 270,000 pounds of CFCs into the atmosphere in 1990.

Intel Corp. has pledged to end all CFC use by year's end, while IBM recently announced it has ended all CFC use at its disk drive plant in San Jose, Calif., a facility that had the nation's largest amount of CFC emissions in 1987.

#### -- IBM Cuts Prices by up to 30%

IBM this week cut some PC prices by up to 30%. The price cuts came on various configurations of IBM's models 35, 56, 57, 70, 90 and 95 desktop PCs, as well as on its laptop and notebook-size portables. They ranged from about 4% to 30%, with most of them falling in the 20-30% range.

#### -- Apple Posts 3rd Quarter Profits

Apple Computer has posted revenues for the third quarter ended June 26, 1992, of \$1.740 billion, a 13.8% increase from the \$1.529 billion reported in the third quarter of the prior year. According to Apple, net income for the third quarter of fiscal 1992 was \$132 million, as compared to a net loss of \$53 million in the third quarter of fiscal 1991.

Apple's international sales were 44% of net sales, which the company claims is unchanged from the third quarter of the prior year.

#### -- Intel Delays P5 Chip

Industry sources say that Intel Corp. is delaying for a few months release of its next-generation microprocessor, code named P5, in order to have more time to ensure a problem-free introduction.

Intel says the delay also will allow the firm to improve the manufacturing process for the chip "and in the interim to make more of its current high-end chip, the '486, whose sales are exceeding expectations. The '486s and the P5 would share the same production lines."

Ziegler adds, "Intel said there were no problems with the P5 design, but that the delay would allow a more extensive test of it, both internally and with users such as personal computer makers."

A few years ago, a bug found in the '486 as Intel began to accelerate production became an Intel embarrassment.

The P5 contains about 3 million transistors on a sliver of silicon, more than two times as many circuits as on the 486. It will be at least twice as powerful as the 486.

#### -- NeXT Joins Object-Oriented Consortium

NeXT Computer Inc has become the latest company to join the 250-member Object Management Group (OMG). The consortium, promotes the cohesive development of object-oriented software technology. Other leading developers that hold membership in OMG include Anderson Consulting, APM, Canon, DEC, Group Bull, Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Novell, Olivetti, Software AG and SunSoft.

OMG is an international organization supported by information system vendors, software developers and users. The group promotes the theory and practice of object-oriented technology in software development. Its charter includes the establishment of industry guidelines and object management specifications to provide a common framework for application development.

OMG says conformance to these specifications will make it possible to develop a heterogeneous applications environment across all major hardware platforms and operating systems.

OMG seeks to foster object technology's growth and influence its direction in four areas: overall architecture, reference model and terms, applications programming interfaces (APIs) for objects and applications and distributed object management services.

#### -- Compaq Reports 2nd Quarter Earnings up 43%

Compaq Computer Corp. today reported second quarter earnings of \$29 million (or 35 cents a share), up 43% over profits of \$20 million (23 cents) a year ago. Revenues in the quarter rose 15% to \$827 million, compared with \$718 million in the second quarter of 1991.

According to Eckhard Pfeiffer, president of Compaq, said that Compaq's new aggressive pricing policy has helped it become a worldwide price leader.

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question to you, but anyone with the answer please feel free to jump in.

Although I've never received any direct info about the upcoming 'Falcon 030' (or whatever its called), we've heard enough rumors that it will contain a SCSI (or SCSI2) connector instead of the Atari's DMA port.

Since I hope to run most of my current software on the new machine if I get one, I am faced with how to move over all my programs. Floppies are a pain, but I have this Supra FD-10 (10Mb floppy system) that could prove quite handy. However, without the DMA connector, I cant just plug this unit in-- OR CAN I? The back of the Supra FD-10 has the usual DMA cable and DMA pass thru connector. It also has a 3rd connector which the manual says is for daisy chaining to a SCSI connector like the Macintosh uses.

Will I be able to get a cable made that will allow me to connect the FD-10 right to the SCSI (or SCSI2) port of the new machine? And if so, would I use the same SUPRABOOT driver to boot the FD-10 to the new system? I understand you won't be able to give me a definitive answer without seeing the new machine yet, but how about a good guess?"

Jeff replies and shares his thoughts and gives us all a lot to look forward to:

-

"A good guess, hmmm....

I would hope that the Falcon has a ACSI port (DMA) since the Atari Laser needs this port to connect to the computer. IF it doesn't have a ACSI port then I hope...expect that Atari is planning on a SCSI video laser controller.

In the first case (has a ACSI port) then it (your Supra 10 meg Floppy) should plug right in and the Atari HDX (V5.0) software should allow you to use your 10 meg Floppy since it supports removable media. Everything I have heard says that it will have a SCSI port not a SCSI 2 port. The SCSI 2 drives are still pricey and are limited to very large sizes =>300 megs or more.

There may be a big brother to the Falcon released next year that has a SCSI 2 port => => considering all the Audio DMA, Appletalk LAN DMA and 56001 DSP DMA ports it needs VERY fast HD access. My suppliers have IDE drives in all sizes from 20 to 400 megs but SCSI drives below 200 megs are harder to get. This may be why we hear that the INTERNAL FALCON drive is going to be a IDE.

If the Falcon has a SCSI port like the TT then the Supra SCSI plug should plug right into it. Cables (MAC Configured) for the TT are easily available and average about \$10.00 (half the price of the Atari custom ACSI cable). The SPECS I've read on the Falcon suggest that this machine is targeted at the following markets in this order:

- 1) PROFESSIONAL (high end) music industry. In this field it's a knock their socks off "Power with out the Price" computer that sets as many standards as the ST did in "85".
- 2) Personal Computer For the typical American it must play games and this machine has that and more.
- 3) Who could ask for more, it potentially could be used in LAB

applications, on boats for EXTENSIVE SONAR imaging, the same monitor could also display a Camera image in a window. It could be used in the medical field in Ultra Sound imaging, DOPPLER (passive) Sonar (measures the velocity of flow in blood vessels to find narrowing in blood vessels) and more."

Again, Albert Dayes of Atari Advantage Magazine supplies information:

"With a SCSI-2 host adapter one can mix SCSI-2 and SCSI-1 devices on the same bus without any problems. There is extra commands in SCSI-2 specifically for audio CD-ROM drives so to starting audio on a CD-ROM drive will be standardized. Also the fast SCSI allows for 16-bits or 32 bits rather than the 8-bit transfer (oops that should be in addition to 8-bit transfer). In the IBM hardware forum there quite a bit of talk regarding SCSI-2 and SCSI-1 devices on the SCSI-2 bus so most of it could be very useful to people who have both SCSI-1 and SCSI-2 devices."

Jeff from Intersect replies to Albert saying:

"I didn't know they allowed SCSI 1 on a SCSI 2 buss. For sure the plugs are different <grin>. That's good news, I'll have to read up on the specs for SCSI 2."

George Richardson jumps into the conversation and says:

"Ron, you can get a cable made up to connect any SCSI Hard disk directly to the Falcon without a host adapter. All you need to do is supply power.

However, the driver need to be of the same type required to run the hard drive on the TT. I don't believe Supra's software supports this. ICD's software will support it, but allows formatting and installation only if there is one of their host adapters in the system, and since there is no ACSI bus on the Falcon, that means that it would have to be set up on a TT machine which has both SCSI and ACSI ports.

The only software that I know that supports the whole mess without any strings is Atari's HDX 5.X software."

George also later posts:

"Ron, you can get a cable made up to connect any SCSI Hard disk directly to the Falcon without a host adapter. All you need to do is supply power.

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Albert Dayes tells Ron Luks:

"If you run an ICD host adapter you can use the DMA cable to the SUPRA FD-10 and be able to chain everything together without any problem. I've noticed when connected other SCSI devices up to the SCSI port on the back of the SUPRA host adapter it locks up the bus. It appears to be related to the STe Hard Disk problems in the past. I've also noticed that I can't hook up my Supra directly to a Atari STe since both the power and lights and busy lights come and on and the bus gets locked up. But by putting a ICD AdSCSI adapter before the SUPRA it works just fine. Some things work just fine on the Supra bust most seem to have a problem. I don't remember if Supra ever came out with something to fix the problem with SUPRA's host a adapters or it could be mine is just and older model (Supra v2.0 dma thru and Apple SCSI thru) on the back."

Pat Augustine asks a question that popped into my mind while reading these posts:

"But how are you going to use an ICD Host Adapter on a machine that doesn't have a DMA? None of mine have anything but DMA connectors.

For that matter, I would imagine you could take the ICD host adapter out and go straight to the SCSI drive (or Adaptec/OMTI adapter), but that would mean you would lose the benefit of that wonderful ICD software. Which I don't want to lose. I've been thinking along these lines, too, since I have two external ICD hard drives, and don't want to give up 180M of storage. Or the software. Sorry, Atari, but I'd rather use ICD hard drive software than yours."

Albert Dayes, again from Atari Advantage Magazine replies:

"You don't need a DMA connection to attach an ICD adapter you could just use SCSI right? If it is looking for an ICD host adapter in the chain it should only look for it in the SCSI point of view rather than the DMA. I'm sure ICD will address the issue when the FALCON is shipping. They already addressed the issue of using ICD software on NON ICD equipment if you own an ICD adapter."

Well folks, that's all for this week. I realize that I didn't even touch on the Atari Art or Atari Developer forums, but I thought that most would enjoy the discussion of what running your current hard drive with a Falcon 030. Tune in again next week for more questions and answers.

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> STR Portfolio News & Information  
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Keeping up to date...

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On CompuServe!

by Judith Hamner 72257,271

The Connecticut AtariFest '92 is looming closer. If you are planning to attend, why not drop by the forum and discuss your plans. You may have a chance to meet your on-line friends in person. CTLYNX.TXT describes the Lynx tournament to be held at the Fest. Head-to-head play will be featured along with hands-on demos of the latest games.

Programming mystics will be interested in THETAO.COM. This is a PBREAD file featuring the TAO of programming. PBREAD is available in the forum library.

STDATE.ZIP is another aid for Star Trek fans. Now you can easily convert from stardates to the Gregorian calendar and back again. This program has been modified for the Portfolio from source found on another forum.

Peter Bennett has created an electronic dice game. DICE.COM requires pbrun.com, the PowerBasic runtime module to operate.

In response to a forum member's request, several useful utilities have been located which work on the Portfolio. These were found in other forums. RENDIR.COM is a command to rename a directory. KILDIR.COM will delete a directory along with all the files it contained.

METRO.ZIP is a database of the telephone exchanges in the Washington D.C. metro area. This program from another forum was also modified for the Portfolio by BJ Gleason. Now you can use the phone number to determine the area a place is located.

Peter Bennett has come up with a new game for the Portfolio. Zeros is an addictive little game written in PowerBasic. ZEROPB.ZIP includes the pbrun.com file needed to run the game. ZEROS.ZIP is for those who already have the pbrun file.

Dr. Helmut Fender has uploaded several useful programs for the Portfolio. UKCODE.DBF is a datafile designed to be used with CODE.COM. This is a database of London telephone exchanges and postal codes which is helpful to determine in what part of town a place is located. TD.COM will tell you facts about today. QY.COM is a unique clock that tells the time in words.

The Connecticut AtariFest is preparing an interesting experiment for their younger guests. Junior and Senior High School students learn desktop publishing while producing a daily newsletter for the show. CTKIDS.TXT contains the details.

Don Thomas has uploaded PCLRES.TXT which contains the resolution to the situation described in earlier postings.

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> The LINK STR InfoFile          NEW!      External SCSI host!  
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THE LINK (tm)
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AN ALL NEW EXTERNAL  
SCSI HOST ADAPTER  
FOR  
ATARI ST COMPUTERS

Press Release: For Immediate Release  
Rockford, Illinois, July 22, 1992

ICD, Incorporated, a leading designer and manufacturer of hardware enhancements for Atari computers, today announced The LINK, a highly integrated external SCSI host adapter for all Atari ST computers.

For the past five years ICD has enjoyed an enviable reputation as the world leader of interfaces connecting Atari ST computers to SCSI devices. Not willing to rest on its laurels, ICD is always looking for ways to push the envelope for data transfer rates, to use the latest in hardware and software technology in order to continually redefine state-of-the-art in the Atari ST host adapter market. This path has given ICD customers the fastest possible hard drives, with uncompromising compatibility and speed at competitive prices.

The LINK, from ICD, allows Atari owners even more flexibility in their choice of hard drives. The LINK is an external SCSI host adapter designed to plug in to a standard 50 pin centronics style SCSI connector. In an attractively-designed molded case measuring just 2.5 inches by 3 inches and less than .75 inches thick (63x76x19 mm), The LINK will fit into most any SCSI environment. The LINK is powered by the termination line of the target SCSI device and will support up to 8 SCSI devices. This allows the use of external SCSI drives originally designed for the Apple Macintosh, IBM PC, Commodore Amiga, NeXT, Atari TT and Falcon, or most other standard SCSI drives with Atari ST, STE, Stacy, and STBOOK computers. Just plug and go. Since most drives require no modifications, The LINK won't affect the drive manufacturer's warranty.

The LINK, along with ICD's highly acclaimed software, also gives multi platform computer owners unprecedented flexibility. If the SCSI drive is formatted under MS-DOS with FDISK, the user can directly read and write files from Atari computers under TOS using the ICD driver, IBM PCs running PC-DOS or MS-DOS, and Amiga computers running AmigaDOS 2.1 or later using the integral CrossDOS utility.

Thomas Harker, President of ICD, explained;

"This is a real breakthrough in SCSI support for Atari ST computers. Not only is this a great value in hardware connectivity, but the software that comes with it is unbeatable."

CD-ROMs are now supported! Since The LINK supports extended SCSI commands we wrote MetaDOS drivers to support the SCSI-2 standard for CD-ROM players. Floptical drives are now fully supported! With the Insite Floptical drive you can read and write IBM-compatible floppy disks at 720K, 1.4Mb, and 21Mb configurations on your Atari ST computer. Magneto-optical drives are also supported! We now support virtually all R/W optical drives in the 3.5 and 5.25 inch formats."

The ICD LINK is competitively priced and will be premiered at the Atari Messe in Duesseldorf, Germany in August. ICD is taking orders now with shipments expected in mid-August. The LINK comes with a full one year warranty.

For further information, contact Thomas Harker at ICD in the United States by phone (815) 968-2228 extension # 120 or fax (815) 968-6888.

The LINK is a trademark of ICD, Incorporated. Other trademarks are those of their respective holders.

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#### IMPORTANT NOTICE!

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STReport International Online Magazine is available every week in the ST Advantage on DELPHI. STReport readers are invited to join DELPHI and become a part of the friendly community of Atari enthusiasts there.

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DELPHI is a service of General Videotex Corporation of Cambridge, Mass.

Effective July 1, 1992, all Basic Plan members will be upgraded to the 10/4 Plan and receive 4 hours of usage each month for only \$10! For full details, type GO USING RATES. SprintNet home time to begin at 6:00 p.m.! Effective July 1, 1992, you may access DELPHI via SprintNet beginning at 6:00 p.m. local time without incurring a telecom surcharge. To find the SprintNet node nearest you, type GO USING ACCESS.

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Looking over Delphi...

by Doyle C. Helms Jr.  
Software Editor @ ST Report

I will be doing a weekly feature on the major on-line systems and what they hold in store for you the user. Each week I will examine what is in store for your file downloading pleasure. I will occasionally drop in on some of the "forums" and see what is being said about various software titles. This software is not limited to commercial applications, the discussions will also surround the Public Domain and Shareware scenes.

Let's skip any further chit-chat and jump right into the heart of things...

Delphi- The ST Advantage

Your Sysops are:

Clayton Walnum (ANALOG4)  
Charles Bachand (BACHAND)  
Gordie Meyer (BIBLINSKI)  
Bryan Schappel (BBKBRYAN)

Let's take a quick look at Delphi-ST Advantage history in the Atari community. Don't fret CIS (Compuserve) users, I will be featuring the ATARIPRO/ART/VEND and etc. areas next week. :)

WAAAYYY back in the early days of ANALOG magazine when the Atari computer was a strapping 8-bit monster among the computers of that day, ANALOG magazine and their staff came on-line with Delphi to support their magazine and Atari computers by virtue of helping the users understand just how-to-do-what. The ANALOG sig on Delphi was MUCH more than just an area where to post and download files, the ANALOG sig also supported the users via "The FORUM". The FORUM is a free form discussion area where users could discuss problems with using an application or just problems with everyday life. Once the ST computer came on the scene, the ANALOG sig was anything but slow in supporting Ataris' new baby. The tradition that was demonstrated in the 8-bit sigs was also VERY much alive in the ST computer support sigs! This tradition continues even to this day. Even though the ANALOG/ST-LOG magazine has gone the way of Antic/STart and others, Delphi-The ST Advantage has continued its' total support of the entire computer line. The sysops in the ST Advantage sig on Delphi are some of the friendliest, knowledgeable and personable people you could ever wish to meet.

Let's take a look at what is happenin' in the ST-Advantage sig this week.

Data-Lope

Shareware authored by David M. Seberg

P.O. Box 420466

San Diego, CA 92142-0466

Data-Lope is a HPDJ (DeskJet) envelope/database program that comes VERY close to commercial quality envelope printing application. A HP DeskJet (or compatible) printer is required to print with this program. I currently use an Epson Action Laser II printer with all HP emulations modes available and I have no complaints with Data-Lope printing. Data-Lope use a nicely implemented GEM interface. Data-Lope includes extensive on-line help. The accompanying documentation is very well written and covers the features of the program completely. If you have a HPDJ or compatible printer and you need the ability to address envelopes, you need this program. Currently found in the RECENT ARRIVALS database on Delphi.



## F10 Address Book

Shareware authored by Frank Vuotto

F10 Software

P.O. Box 2201

Taos, New Mexico 87571

The F10 Address Book is a easy to use name-address-tele# database. The program is quickly learned and implemented into everyday use. This program can contain up to 50 records per alphabetic letter. This program will also dial the requested number if you place you tele-receiver close to you monitor speaker. The author states that he has had limited success with this method of dialing. The phone can also be dialed using the MODEM option with the AT command set. The modem has to be sent the ATH0 (hang up modem) command after the number has been dialed.

Mr. Vuotto has also authored several other shareware applications. These are: ROBO BOP-Graphic MIDI Rhythm Editor, LEXLAX01-Lexicon LXP1 Editor/Librarian Desk ACC., TX81-ZIP TX 81Z- Librarian Desk ACC., TIME SHEET- recording studio point of sales and log book.

## Spider 2.0 Solitaire Game (low rez color only)

Spider 2.0 Solitaire card game is for low rez color only. But oh my how nice the colors are in this game! This game runs on classic ST's and also TOS 2.05 MSTE also. The graphics in this game are quite nice and game play is mouse controlled. The interface is similar to what is found in STOS quality games. There is a help option available which will "cheat" and show you the next best move. High score tracking is also available. If you a computer card player, and especially a solitaire player, you will enjoy this game!

## DBWRITER version 1.8 Word Processor FREEWARE by David Becker

DBWRITER is almost a full featured word processor for the Atari ST/MSTE. Mr. Becker has been working on this program for quite a few months and it is growing into a commercial quality program much like ST WRITER ELITE from Atari/Dr. Noonan. Mr. Becker states that the program originally started as an experiment in alternative user interfaces. Well, suffice it to say that Mr. Becker has achieved his goal with DBWRITER 1.8! I have not had enough time to really dive into DBWRITER, but from what little I have used it, it might well replace WordWriter as my primary word processor for non-professional layout work. DBWRITER also has a Thesaurus and dictionary that the users can customize for there own particular needs. DBWRITER also has the ability of a small address book/cardfile database for mail merge operations. If you haven't tried this program, and you would like to see something different in word processing, check out DBWRITER 1.8!

Here are some other files found in the RECENT ARRIVALS data of The ST-Advantage:

MUNCHIE    Game  
            Ms. PacMan style game written in GFA  
            Basic with the new GP Graphics  
            Engine.Docs Included. Great Graphics

ROBO BOP    MIDI v. 1.9  
            Graphic MIDI editor that works with

```
SPX Viewer 1.8
View SpeCtrum eXtended graphic
files. Color monitor required!
Will not run on TT!
```

Well, that about does it for this weeks look at the ST Advantage files on Delphi for the Atari ST/Ste/TT. Next week I will feature CIS (Compuserve) and some more Delphi of course!

Serial Side Note: Rumor has it that InterNet can be accessed through Delphi! I will look into this and let you know more about this rumor. Until then...

THE TRB REFERENCE SERIES  
=====

Taylor Ridge Books has announced the release of AES Quick Reference, the first volume in the new TRB Reference Series, featuring a complete guide to the AES library of functions, as well as an overview of the TOS operating system. In this 100-page volume, each AES function is covered thoroughly, including a brief description of the function, sample function calls for both assembly language and C, and notes on function usage. Also included are complete program shells that assembly language or C programmers can use as templates for their own programs.

The AES Quick Reference's logical and attractive layout makes it easy to locate quickly the information programmers need. Each function begins on its own page and features the function name and number in large type at the top. Moreover, the entire AES function library has been organized in alphabetical order, further facilitating the location of a particular function.

The AES Quick Reference sells for a low \$11.95 plus \$3 P&H (\$4 outside the U.S.). An optional disk containing the program shells is available for an additional \$5. The second volume of the series, VDI Quick Reference, will be released in August 1992, with the third volume, TOS Quick Reference soon to follow.

GFA-BASIC PROGRAMMING TOOLKIT  
=====

Manchester, CT. July 17, 1992

Taylor Ridge Books has announced the release of The GFA-BASIC Toolkit, Volume 1, which contains a wealth of programming routines for GFA-BASIC programmers. Written by John Hutchinson of Fair Dinkum Technologies, The GFA BASIC Toolkit provides novice to intermediate programmers with over 50 useful routines they can plug directly into their programs. Whether the programmer needs to unravel the mysteries of file handling or just wants to add digitized sounds to his program, the Toolkit offers a treasure chest of routines for making programs more professional.

Included in this volume are routines to load and save picture files, flip screens, clip graphic elements from a screen, display graphics with various video effects, play both regular sounds and digitized sound, control a blitter chip, and much more. Even advanced programmers are likely to find some helpful gems tucked away within its pages. Priced at \$34.95 plus \$3 P&H (\$4 outside the U.S.), The GFA-BASIC Toolkit comes with a complete manual and a disk that includes an extensive sample program, as well as all the routines in the book.

The GFA-BASIC Toolkit or the AES Quick Reference may be ordered from:

Taylor Ridge Books  
P.O. Box 78  
Manchester, CT 06045-0078

Books may also be purchased with Visa or MasterCard, please call:

(203) 643-9673  
or

ordered via electronic mail on:

Delphi	CompuServe	GENie
ANALOG4	70303,3633	C.WALNUM1

\*\*\*\*\*

:HOW TO GET YOUR OWN GENIE ACCOUNT:

---

To sign up for GENie service:

Set your communications software to Half Duplex (or Local Echo)

Call: (with modem) 800-638-8369.

Upon connection type HHH (RETURN after that).

Wait for the U#= prompt.

Type: XTX99587,CPUREPT then, hit RETURN.

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Information Services/GENie, reprinted by permission



the victims off the track.

A major software industry perversion of the copyright law, designed specifically to pirate the legal rights of computer users in the public schools, is embodied in the following ICCE cornerstone definition:

"Back-up Copy: The Copyright Act is clear in permitting the owner of software a back-up copy of the software to be held for use as an archival copy in the event the original disk fails to function." This definition is promoted (by the ICCE) to the schools in the following set of software handling instructions:

- (1) You can make only ONE backup copy of a computer program.
- (2) You MUST use the ORIGINAL copy until such time as it might be damaged during use.
- (3) If, and only if, the original copy is damaged during use, you may use a backup copy, but only on an INTERIM basis while a new original copy is being purchased from the software publisher.
- (4) As soon as the new original is received, it MUST be placed into regular service (just like the preceding original copy), with the backup copy being returned to the "archives."

If these instructions are followed, the school district will PURCHASE a copy of the program for EVERY disk that is damaged, from whatever cause! YOU know, of course, that only one original copy need be purchased (for use on a single computer at a time), no matter how many disks are damaged during use. The accepted method is to use the backup copy on a regular basis, with the original being put aside for use only in making further backup copies as might be necessary.

Imagine the cost to the school district (translation: the taxpayers) incurred by following this perverted software industry "interpretation" of the copyright law. Also imagine the cost to the harassed classroom computer teacher who attempts to obey these ludicrous instructions. Also imagine the effect of telling such deliberate LIES both to students and other school personnel, in order to advance COMMERCIAL interests.

Preposterous, you say? Not to the San Diego Unified School District which, while constantly yelling and screaming for "more money" from the taxpayers, has no problem in stealing from the taxpayers to line the pockets of the software industry with undeserved profits! Presented below is a letter from this school district's General Counsel, Christina Dyer, to Dr. Thomas Payzant, the district superintendent. This letter contains "her" legal opinion, provided in response to a request from Dr. Payzant. This request was made in order to answer my pointed criticism of the ICCE copyright law interpretation being used by the San Diego Unified School District. Be sure to read the final two paragraphs of this opinion, if you only skim through the rest; they are likely to have you rolling in the aisles. However, as a courtesy to Ms. Dyer, try to hold down the laughter as you read them; believe it or not, she is deadly serious!!

\*\*\*\*

DATE: September 9, 1988

TO: Dr. Thomas W. Payzant Superintendent

SUBJECT: Computer Program Copyrights

By letter dated August 2, 1988, Mr. Albert Silverman asserted, among other things, that the International Council for Computer Education ("ICCE") policies on the use of copyrighted computer programs are in-correct. The ICCE is of the opinion that, absent specific authorization by the copyright owner, only a single archival copy may be made of each purchased computer program copy and that such copy is to be held for use as an archival copy in the event the original disk fails to function. The California State Department of Education has recommended that school districts adopt the ICCE policies on computer program copying.

Mr. Silverman, on the other hand, is of the opinion that multiple disk copies may be made from a computer program contained in a purchased disk, and that the copies may be used in lieu of the purchased copy. In this manner, the purchased copy would not be exposed to the risk of destruction and would always remain available for the purpose of making additionally needed copies. In support of his contention, Mr. Silverman cited a November 9, 1987, San Diego County Counsel opinion advising that multiple archival copies may be made from a single purchased computer program copy, and that an archival copy may be placed in use in lieu of the purchased copy to eliminate the risk of damage to the purchased copy.

In response to Mr. Silverman's contentions, we previously opined that a court examining the issue would rule that copyrighted computer programs may be copied, without the copyright owner's permission, only in the manner suggested by the ICCE and the State. By letter dated August 23, 1988, Mr. Silverman appears to have requested a written opinion from this office setting forth the rationale supporting our conclusion. In order to enable you to respond to Mr. Silverman, we set forth below our analysis on the foregoing issue.

#### DISCUSSION

Section 106 to Title 17 of the United States Code details the exclusive rights of copyright owners, and states in relevant part:

"Subject to Sections 107 through 118, the owner of copyright under this title has the exclusive right to do and to authorize any of the following:

- (1) To replace the copyrighted work in copies . . . . ."

Absent a statutory exemption, the unauthorized duplication of a copyright owner's computer program is an infringement of the copyright owner's rights. (Atari, Inc. v. JS & A Group, Inc. (D.C.Ill., 1983) 597 F.Supp. 5, 8.) 17 U.S.C. Section 117 sets forth two exceptions. Section 117 states:

"Notwithstanding the provisions of section 106, it is not an infringement for the owner of a copy of a computer program to make or authorize the making of another copy or adaptation of that computer program provided:

- (1) that such a copy or adaptation is created as an essential step in the utilization of the computer program in conjunction with a machine and that it is used in no other manner, or
- (2) that such new copy or adaptation is for archival purposes only and that all archival copies are destroyed in the event that continued possession of the computer program should cease to be rightful.

Any exact copies prepared in accordance with the provisions of this

section may be leased, sold, or otherwise transferred, along with the copy from which such copies were prepared, only as a part of the lease, sale, or other transfer of all rights in the program. Adaptations so prepared may be transferred only with the authorization of the copyright owner."

The first exemption listed above refers to the placement of a program into a computer, or "inputting" of it. Inputting a computer program entails the preparation of a copy. (Micro-Sparc, Inc. v. Amtype Corp., (D.C.Mass., 1984) 592 F.Supp. 33, 35.) Computer programs written on paper cannot be used at all in a computer without being translated ("copied") into machine readable form; and programs on disks cannot, as a practical matter, be used without first being loaded ("copied") into a memory device in the computer. (Apple Computer, Inc. v. Formula Intern., Inc. (C.A.Cal., 1984) 594 F.Supp. 617, 621.) Because a person must input a program in order to use it, each use constitutes a potential copyright violation. (Micro-Sparc, Inc. v. Amtype Corp., supra, 592 F.Supp. 33, 35.) Subsection (1) 117 (1) was enacted simply to permit the rightful possessor of a program to input and use it. The permission to copy stated therein is "strictly limited to inputting programs." (Ibid.)

The purpose of the second exemption in Section 117 is to protect the use of a copy against a particular type of risk: "destruction or damage by mechanical or electrical failure." (Atari, Inc. v. JS&A Group, Inc., supra, 597 F.Supp. 5, 9.) Computer programs are stored in a wide variety of media, and not all are subject to mechanical or electrical failure. A paper copy may be burned or shredded, yet it could not be destroyed by mechanical or electrical failure. The medium of storage determines whether the "archival" exemption under Section 117 applies. Section 117 does not apply where the dangers of destruction are "physical" dangers. "Where, and only where, a medium may be destroyed by mechanical or electrical failure, the archival exception protects the owners of programs stored in that medium by granting them the right to make back up copies." (Ibid.)

Although a program stored on a disk, instead of a computer's memory, is less susceptible to destruction or damage by mechanical or electrical failure, "it is not completely immune from such a mishap." (Vault Corp. v. Quaid Software Ltd., (E.D.La., 1987) 655 F.Supp. 750, 759, citing Micro-Sparc, supra, 592 F.Supp. 33, 35 n.8.) Accordingly, a program stored on a disk could be destroyed or damaged by mechanical or electrical failure, and may be copied to the extent authorized by Section 117(2). (Ibid.)

While it appears reasonably clear that an archival copy may be made of a computer disk by the rightful owner thereof, the Courts have yet to define the precise meaning of the term "archival" as used in Section 117(2). The Court in Atari held that the defendant therein could not avail itself of Section 117(2) to market a device which, essentially, served no purpose other than to make copies of Atari's video game computer programs. Atari's programs were contained in an electronic circuit, or "chip," housed within a plastic cartridge. The chips were "read only memory" and could neither be reprogrammed or erased. Under these facts, the Court held that archival copies could not be made of the programs because they were not susceptible to destruction or damage by mechanical or electrical failure.

In Apple, the Court addressed only the exemption provided under subdivision (1) to Section 117. The Court therein stated its opinion "should not be read as attempting to construe, in any way, the meaning or scope of subparagraph 2 [to Section 117]." (594 F.Supp. 617, 620 n.2.)

And in *Micro-Sparc, Inc.* the Court held, in part, that Section 117(2) did not authorize the making of disk copies of computer programs originally sold in paper form in a computer industry magazine. The Court stated the magazine purchaser could not authorize a third party to put the programs in disk form because the paper programs, although subject to physical dangers, were not subject to destruction or damage by mechanical or electrical failure. (592 F.Supp. 33, 35-36.)

We note, however, that the copyright statutes contain only three other exceptions for "archival" copying. (*Atari, Inc. v. JS & A Group, Inc.*, supra, 597 F.Supp. 5, 10, n.2.) Libraries and archives may make a copy of an unpublished work "for purposes of preservation and security . . .," (17 U.S.C. Section 108(b)) and may make a replacement copy of a published work that is "damaged, deteriorating, lost, or stolen, if the library or archives has after a reasonable effort, determined that an unused replacement cannot be obtained at a fair price." (17 U.S.C. Section 108(c)).

Finally, 17 U.S.C. Section 112(a) authorizes a broadcasting organization which has the right to transmit a particular work, other than motion pictures or other audiovisual works, to make one copy or phono record of a broadcast program embodying the work, if the copy or phono record is used solely for the organization's own transmission within its own area, "or for purposes of archival preservation or security . . . ." (17 U.S.C. Section 112(a)(2)). The copy or phono record must be destroyed within six months from the date of the program's first public transmission unless it is "preserved exclusively for archival purposes." (17 U.S.C. Section 112(a)(3)) In addition, public educational institutions are expressly authorized to make thirty copies or phono records of certain works, provided all copies and phono records are destroyed within seven years, "except for one copy or phono record that may be preserved exclusively for archival purposes . . . ." (17 U.S.C. Section 112(b)(2))

Given the foregoing, we are of the opinion that in enacting Section 117(2), Congress intended to grant owners of computer programs the right to make an archival copy of each program where the program was purchased in a medium susceptible to destruction or damage by mechanical or electrical failure, as opposed to mere physical damage. We believe Section 117(2) parallels archival duplication rights granted by Congress under Sections 108 and 112 inasmuch as Section 117 plainly states it is not an infringement for "the owner of a copy of a computer program to make . . . another copy . . . of that program provided . . . that such new copy . . . is for archival purposes only . . . ."

The term "archival" means "of, relating to, contained in, or constituting archives or records." (Webster Third New International Dictionary, 1981.) The term "archive," in turn, means,

"1. a: place in which public or institutional records (as minutes, correspondence, reports, accounts) are systematically preserved . .

b: a repository for any documents or other materials esp. of historical value . . .

c: any repository or collection esp. of information." (Webster, supra.)

In our view, Congress intended to permit the making of only one copy of each lawfully acquired computer program copy, and that such new copy be used for "archival purposes only." This interpretation is consistent with



the provisions of Section 108 and 112 wherein authorization is granted for the reproduction of single copies of protected works for archival purposes. Archival purposes would ordinarily be those relating to the preservation of the new copy in a repository. In our opinion, the actual use of the new copy in day-to-day operation would be inconsistent with its use for "archival purposes only."

#### CONCLUSION

Not unlike many issues in law, the question of the scope of permissible copying of copyrighted programs is subject to debate. We are of the opinion a Court would conclude Congress intended to permit the making of a single archival copy of each lawfully acquired computer program copy, and that such archival copy be used only for archival purposes. We further believe a Court would determine that day-to-day use of an archival [backup] copy would be inconsistent with the provisions of Section 117(2).

Sincerely,

CHRISTINA L. DYER  
General Counsel

JOSE A. GONZALES  
Assistant General Counsel

-----  
INCREDIBLE!!

This is a classic exposition of the software industry's copyright law "interpretation," provided to the San Diego Unified School District (under challenge from outside the system) as a justification for its adherence to the ICCE software handling guidelines.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

The intent of the "archival backup" provision of the copyright law is clearly to avoid financially and operationally penalizing the software user, due to the fragility of the computer storage medium. The universally-accepted practice within the computer-using community at large is to use a backup copy as a day-to-day (working) copy, while setting aside the original copy for use only in making more backup copies as might be necessary to replace disks damaged during use. In accordance with this practice, only ONE original copy need ever be purchased for use on one computer at a time. By contrast, the perverted software industry (ICCE) copyright law interpretation expressed in "Dyer's" opinion requires that a NEW COPY BE PURCHASED FROM THE SOFTWARE PUBLISHER to replace every copy that is damaged during use, for whatever reason!

Since following the correct interpretation of the copyright law is FAR cheaper for the schools (and hence for the taxpayers) than is following the grossly distorted software industry interpretation, two very important questions arise.

- (1) WHY should any school district (such as the San Diego Unified District, which also has its own legal staff that is supposedly capable of interpreting the law on its own) follow the industry interpretation.

- (2) WHY did the California Department of Education grant the industry the right to indoctrinate the public schools with its own "special" copyright law interpretation?

Can it just be possible that someone within the California Department of Education was (illegally) compensated by the software industry in exchange for permitting the industry to indoctrinate the public school districts its own heavily-biased copyright law interpretation? Or can it just be possible that someone within the San Diego Unified School District was (illegally) compensated by the software industry in exchange for the district's cooperation in forcing its computer-using personnel to follow the ICCE software handling guidelines? These are indeed crucial questions. Isn't it high time that California taxpayers and/or parents get some straight answers from those who are responsible?

#### STEALING FROM THE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES NATIONWIDE

EDUCOM was created by ADAPSO (the computer industry's trade association) in 1987 to promote the industry's "anti-piracy" campaign in the colleges and universities throughout the nation. This proud creation was announced in an ADAPSO report to the industry, and was claimed to be for the purpose of "preparing a program directed to the higher education community which will be implemented in 1987."

EDUCOM claims to represent "a non-profit consortium of over 450 colleges and universities committed to the use and management of information technology in higher education." What a marvelous sense of humor! As "a service to the academic community" (the humor comes rushing to the fore), EDUCOM published in 1987, for distribution to the academic community, an engaging and imaginative little pamphlet entitled "USING SOFTWARE: A Guide to the Ethical and Legal Use of Software for Members of the Academic Community."

The following quote from this publication is preceded by a numeral "one" within a large red circle and stands out prominently on the page.

Quote #1

"UNAUTHORIZED copying of software is illegal."

The Purpose:

to hide the fact that there are two situations, under the copyright law, in which you ARE permitted to make unauthorized copies of copyrighted software

The Truth:

- (1) The making of backup copies of copyrighted computer software, without the authorization of the copyright owner, IS permitted under Section 117(2) of the copyright law.
- (2) The making of an unauthorized copy of computer software, without the authorization of the copyright owner, IS permitted for the specific purposes detailed under Section 107 ("fair use").of the copyright law.

The following quote appears in a little question-and-answer session about using software. In response to the question "What do I need to know about software and the U.S. Copyright Act?," we find the following (have you seen this before?):

## Quote #2

"If you have purchased your copy, however, you may make a backup for your own use in case the original is destroyed or fails to work."

### The Purpose:

to persuade you that the purchased disk must be used until such time as it might be damaged, thus increasing the sale of replacement copies for damaged original disks

### The Truth:

A backup copy is made and placed into regular use, in order to guard the ORIGINAL (purchased) copy against damage or destruction by mechanical or electrical failure.

EDUCOM is very determined to impress upon the software user that he/she is not permitted to use unauthorized copies of computer software simultaneously. A past master in confusion and obfuscation (so what else is new in legal-rights piracy?), EDUCOM will twist around a question to mean something that it does not and then answer the perverted question in order to emphasize some particular point. As an example of this technique, consider the answers given to this question, in a little question and answer session about using software:

### Question

"Can I loan software I have purchased myself?"

### Answer

"Copyright law does not permit you to run your software on two or more computers simultaneously unless the license agreement specifically allows it."

### The Purpose:

- (1) to convince you that you are using the software under a license agreement, whether or not this may be the case (note the use of "the," rather than "a," preceding the word "license").
- (2) to convince you that you are never entitled to use multiple unauthorized copies simultaneously without the permission of the copyright owner

### The Truth:

- (1) If you have not entered into a license agreement, you own the title to the software and are not therefore using it under a license agreement.
- (2) Copyright law may (under a "fair use" exception) permit the use of a single purchased copy on two or more computers simultaneously.

But note that the response does not answer the question which was asked! The question which IS being answered is: "Can I lend a copy of the software which I have made myself, while keeping and using the original copy?" The answer to this question is "no," UNLESS there is a "fair use" exception. This is due to the transfer provision of Section 117 of the copyright law, which requires that any unauthorized copies that are not

destroyed be transferred along with the original copy from which they were prepared.

## Summary

The common thread which links the ICCE and EDUCOM, in their piracy of the legal rights of software users in educational institutions, is the perverted copyright law interpretation which states that a single backup copy can be made for (temporary) use in the event that the original disk fails to function. Apart from this, EDUCOM is promoting the industry's so-called "software license, which is discussed in the first of this series on piracy--with a twist. EDUCOM's effort in this area is (falsely) to convince the software user in the colleges and universities that copy-related user conduct is regulated by the license agreement.

It is perfectly clear that these two organizations (both of which are masquerading as "nonprofit") are disseminating their "copyright information" in order to advance the commercial self-interest of the computer software industry. They are NOT working for the benefit of the educational institutions (i.e., for the public good).

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Read all about it in "THE COPYRIGHT GAME, ETC.--A Strategic Guide for the Computer Software User," by Albert Silverman. ISBN 0-9527435-1-8. 330 pages in nominal 8-1/2"x11" format, softbound with an attractive cover.

What is the purpose of this book? Replacing the legal Mumbo-Jumbo with plain English, it provides an all-inclusive, detailed, and impartial explanation of the computer software copyright laws, using past court cases for clarification of obscure language in the written letter of the law. Since there is NO commercially-generated distortion, it is likely that you will find some surprises; i.e., which run contrary to the industry's self-serving "interpretation" of the law. Thoroughly debunked is the industry's attempt to pirate your legal rights by the use of a phoney "licensing strategy." Included is a detailed and entertaining analysis of several leading Software License Agreements. In summary, you are provided with sufficient and accurate information (i.e., the legal FACTS) to permit you to handle your computer software in the manner intended by the U.S. Congress, while safely ignoring those industry perversions of the law which seek to gain for it an unfair advantage.. at YOUR expense.

Exposed in great detail is the outrageous software industry piracy of the legal rights of unsophisticated software users (directed by unconcerned educational administrators) within the California public schools. For the first time ever, this well-hidden scheme has been unearthed (with supporting and incriminating documentation from my extensive research into the inner educational sanctum) and is being made public. Although this ongoing effort is particularly well organized in California, the premier "computer state," it blankets the entire nation, leaving no educational level uncovered.

The disastrous result of this exceptionally cozy relationship between the computer software industry and the California Department of Education is explained. If you are at all concerned about the way in which this illicit educational-commercial "partnership" affects the integrity of computer education in your public schools and drains away your tax money to line the software industry's pockets with unwarranted profits, this book is essential reading.



rep on the hot seat, I felt there was a good reason for it. Since I "are" a salesman myself, I could feel some concern for his position. When direct questions were being asked, it would have sat easier with most of us if he were straight forward and to the point. So I will give us all a pat on the back and a "JOB WELL DONE" to all that made it possible, the supporters of ATARI.

Russell Nicotri - BRACE Member

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Since I was lashed to the camcorder for most of the show, I don't have a real feel for the '92 Atarifest. Perhaps I will in several weeks, when I've finished editing the video.

I did get to help some in Registration with Mary, a very nice lady from KAUG. From what I saw there we may want to consider how we handle things associated with the registration desk for the next show.

The most important reaction to the show has to come from the Dealers. Since I didn't make the follow-up banquet, I don't know how they felt. But, those few BRACE members who worked on the show should feel immensely satisfied to have brought it off so well. Especially, Cliff for all of his efforts at organization and Sheldon for his contacts with the Dealers.

Earl Newborn - BRACE Librarian

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This year's ATARIFEST impressed me as being more action packed than any previous year. We were blessed with software developers who had a wide range of interesting programs to show off. We also had folks in process of developing new programs. This type of input into a show like ours is invaluable.

All in all, from the perspective of an individual who has a narrow interest range in computing, this was a great show. Next year I would urge anyone who wants to see the cutting edge of computers to attend. The only drawback to the whole show was that I couldn't afford to buy one of everything. IBM users- WAKE UP!!

Mike Zenowitz- BRACE Newsletter Editor

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They came...They saw...They spent.  
So went the third BRACE AtariFest.

On June 18, several hundred Atarians from North Carolina and neighboring states converged on Asheville to get a chance to see first hand some of the most innovative new products for their Atari computers and to meet the developers and vendors. They were not disappointed!

The show had something for everyone, from light-hearted games to industrial strength business applications. For those just interested in learning about Atari computers, there were educational seminars and enough information from developers to fill a large volume. By starting time at 10:00 am, the hall was bustling with activity. The pace was hectic for the next several hours.

Between the displays, seminars, door prizes (graciously donated by vendors and developers), and newfound Atari friends, there was something to do all the time. If you missed it, you missed a good show. I'm already looking forward to next year and the new technology it might bring to the show.

Van eSTes - BRACE President

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From GENie's ST RT

Category 11, Topic 7

Message 179 Sun Jul 19, 1992

HAINES at 17:37 EDT

Well, after a few hours sleep, I thought I would post here for any monitoring this topic as to what was shown at the show. Starting at the front door was Accusoft, which has some really excellent and very clean monochrome img files on a very wide variety of topics. I bought a sample pak from them, consisting of 8 of their most popular disks, each with a viewer program, for \$24. It also came with a nice disk holder. Next was Worldcomm, with Chris Roberts. I saw him inside at several booths, but never saw him outside. He might have decided to look more than sit.

Registration desk next, with the Knoxville Atari Users Group (KAUG) table beside it. They were showing some nice demo stuff when I went by, but I don't think they were showing any product. When you went in the front door to the main hall area, all the booths were on your left.

The first was Lexicor Software, which was showing the Phase 4 paint and rendering software. They were running a videotape showing previous efforts, and these could only be described as stunning. Some were done on the Matrix card, some on their 24 bit video card. These videos were incredible. You would never believe the video. If you ever saw the movie Tron, you would have a idea of the possibilities. They just started there. The video was a little worn, but running at every show would make it so, because anyone that looked at it stayed for a while. Very impressive.

Next was SDS, showing the Deskjet Utilities pack, Newdesk icon editor, and a product I was very excited about, the Logitech Fotoman Camera. This is a new product, to be on the market August 15. It is a 372 by 256 pixels 256 grayscale camera than can take and digitally hold 32 pictures. The software was very nice, and controlled the camera, though it still has a few features they want to add. The SDS fellow (can't read his name) told the guys at the Lexicor booth to smile, and snapped their picture. He placed the Fotoman in its cradle, and selected the directory function in the software. In a few seconds, a thumbnail preview of all the pictures in the camera appeared on screen. They can be saved in TIFF, EPS, and another I don't remember (IMG?). It connects to the serial port, and runs at 9600 baud now, release version will possibly run at 14 to 19k, depending on how reliable they find these to be. At 9600 it is really fast. A seamless, quick, and impressive way to get pictures in to the ST. They hope to have a Calamus SL import module later. Priced at \$700 for complete system, to \$100 if you already own the hardware. Separate versions for ST or TT though, some specific functions needed for each.

Next was Step Ahead Software, showing Tracker ST and Gemvelope. I

think Nevin was a little late getting in, but he did make it, and showed these excellent products to many interested users.

Craig Harvey of Edhak fame was next at the Clear Thinking booth, showing his fast and excellent file/memory/disk/next editor. He was also showing a Metapsychology primer program (?) which several people bought as a package along with Edhak, I think it allows you to look at (I don't know about editing) your head. Nothing really like it in the ST market, one of the buyers can explain it more easily than I.

ABC Solutions was showing First Publisher 2, tbxCad, Kspread 4 and Kspread Lite, First Word Plus, and the one I really liked, Firstgraph. If you have played with the demo, you know this is an extremely powerful graphing package. It is also very fast. They showed me the current versions speed by having a 3d bar graph drawn, with a perspective view shown from off center. He then grabbed a camera view icon, and dragged it around, changing the perspective. Redraw was basically instantaneous. Very fast, very clean. You can place labels anywhere on the graph, rotate them, etc. Very powerful for the price. They were upgrading the other packages at the show.

Next was DSA, showing their new product, the DP graphics engine. This is a program for drawing graphics, sprites, background screens and more, for inclusion in your GFA Basic programs, somewhat similar to the utilities in STOS, but more fully featured. They were showing 3 games programmed in the engine, for a total of less than 30 hours programming time. One was Ms Pacman, the other an invaders clone, the other a nice platform game, as good as anything I have seen out of Europe. Smooth graphics, detailed sprites, and nice sounds. Looks good. They are also going to mail out a shareware drawing program, they showed a version of it at the show, but it was not complete enough to let loose. It has several functions not present in any of the drawing programs I have seen, including the ability to grab any portion of a picture and create an instant border around it. It has text, and very interesting gradient fill brushes that can change gradients as they move, making very nice pictures. It looks like a good replacement for Printmaster.

Next was a music booth, but I can't read what I have written. I don't know much about the music scene, but the software was very professional looking, and the sounds very nice. Someone else can cover this.

Next was the Codehead double table. They needed it. From the time John got there and set up, till he left, there was a group of people around him 2, and sometimes three deep, watching him put Calligrapher, Megapaint II, and Avant Vector through their paces. If he sold as much as people were interested, it should have been very successful.

Across the way was Joppa Software, showing their Straight Fax software for the ST. They held a seminar, telling of the possible future features to be included in the software as newer Fax modems come to the market, and invited anyone to come over to their booth and try the fax software, using a hand scanner or a page scanner. They have Pagestream and Calamus export drivers, and the fax pages produced from these are virtually indistinguishable from the original produced on a laser printer.

Beside them was Maxwell CPU, showing off Silhouette, the American, low priced alternative to the European programs, combining autotracing and editing of bitmap and vectors in one program. Very impressive.

Mobile Ohm Software was next, they got in a little late, I only got a



peek, showing some music software.

Twilight Zone Software was showing Transcendence BBS, which looking very nice and full featured.

Steinberg-Jones had a seminar room set up, where they showed their wares and held their seminar. Very interesting abilities with their programs. The demo they held was like something off a rock concert stage. I may have missed someone, as I jumped around some.

Ralph from STReport did have a table, and was handing out "No More Real Soon Now" and STReport badges. He was a very interesting person to talk to. A lot of people think he is down on Atari, but I found him to be up on Atari, kind of down on the people at Atari, or certain ones anyway. The seminars were very well attended.

Don Terp of Reed Mountain Press spoke some on publishing, but mainly on how to use your system to run a business, and stay in business.

Joppa spoke on the features they have in their software, and future development.

A KAUG member put on an interesting beginning Midi demo, as he is the leader of his church choir, and uses his ST and midi software and keyboards to make church music! Definitely a long way from the Rock and Roll we usually associate with the St and Midi. Steinberg-Jones had a very nice seminar demonstrating the abilities of their products, with very wild sounds issuing forth.

Ralph of STReport's seminar was very well attended. He is pretty upbeat about Atari this year, with the wait for the new machines, and feels that Atari can make a real comeback, but they have to push the new machine. If they wait, they will loose the advantage of the advanced technology for the price like they used to have. He more or less stated that a lot of the details everyone has been hearing from europe about the Falcon contain a lot of the truth. He also urges everyone to write to Atari to encourage them to push now. When he asked who plans to buy one of the new machines, almost the entire room raised their hands.

Mike Groh of Atari had no formal presentation, but instead had a question and answer period. He would not confirm or deny the Falcon and its release date, but stated that if others in the company had stated it might have a fall 92 release, that there might be a release then, as Atari is always in product development, he just was not able to say what.

He stated the ST Stylus had been dropped because of the extreme manpower needed to get market penetration with this type of new product. He stated that the ST Book would not be sold here now, but is being sold in other parts of the world. A 4 meg version, maybe or maybe not with backlit screen will be available here later in the year, possibly fall 92.

FSM GDOS is to be rewritten so that it can use fonts that can be obtained at any PC store, though he did not say which, Ralph thinks Bitstream. He spoke about the advertising Atari is doing, and markets they thing they can move into.

A lot of questions, many of which he could not give real answers to, as the questioners knew, they were just hoping for a little slip, but Mike was on top of it. Other than the above, and a little info on Multitos, nothing new was released. Well, I probably missed as much as I saw. I

thought it to be a very successful show. I don't know about how many attended, but every time I left a seminar, the hallway was packed. Computer Studio had a line at the cash register each time I went in. I know I enjoyed it, and hope it was good for the developers.

\\~\\~\\

For those that couldn't attend the show, I think you missed one of the best little shows in the south.

A special thanks to the following;

Accusoft-ST:

-----

I will be spending quite a few days looking through all the Clip-Art disks I got. ABC Solutions: Sorry I was unable to visit your booth. Everytime I started over your way, I was called to do something else.

Clear Thinking:

-----

Will try the Metapsychology Primer in a couple of days. I hope I don't prove to be sane, it's more fun when your slightly crazy. CodeHead Software: John, thanks for checking on my version numbers. DSA: Every time I looked, your booth was full of kids playing your software.

Computer Studio:

-----

For the User group support year round. And for the 8-bit trade in special on the MegaSTE.

Joppa Software Development:

-----

Sorry I didn't get a chance to visit your booth until close to closing time. From what I could see, your product does look like the one for me. Have a safe trip back.

KAUG:

-----

Thanks for the assist with the registration desk.

Erik White (KAUG):

Good seminar.

Lexicor Software:

-----

Thank you again for the door prize. Maxwell CPU: With all the IMG clip art I got at the Accusoft-ST booth, your program will get a work out.

Reed Mountain Press:

-----

For the second year in row, you've packed the seminar. Am looking forward to reading your new book.

Software Development System:

-----

As soon as I pick up my new MegaSTE tomorrow, I will install the NewDesk ICON CPX.

STReport International Online Magazine:

-----

### Step Ahead Software:

Applied Audio Marketing and Steinberg/Jones:

Once again, thanks to all for making this show winner.

\\ \\ \\ ~ ~ ~ / / /

Sheldon (Computer STudio - Asheville, NC)

\\ \\ \\ ~ ~ ~ / / /

Congratulations are in order to Sheldon Winick, Brace and all the great folks who worked diligently to bring such a successful show about. The dinner after the show was outstanding. The menu was all American and made from the freshest of fresh ingredients. Believe me, the fare was superb. A hearty "WELL-DONE" to all.

LOOKING GENIE OVER.....

ALL AROUND GENIE - #2  
=====

Compiled by Lloyd E. Pulley, Sr.  
Senior Editor of ST Report

A few posts that I found interesting in my travels around Genie. Most are related to computers and/or the ST, some are not.

-----

From the Jerry Pournelle RT - Category 4, Topic 11 - Message 165...

Warning!

Do *\*not\** have a bored gerbil in the house right before you plan on going to bed! A gerbil with a toilet paper roll is noisy for only a few minutes; a bored gerbil can be noisy for hours.

-----

Last week I had some posts from the Jerry Pournelle RT that were talking about Carpal Tunnel Syndrome and computers. Here's two more articles about CT Syndrome from Al Fasoldt that were found in the Atari ST RT file library -

2 columns on carpal tunnel syndrome  
\*\*\*\*\*

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WRIST INJURY EMERGES AS HAZARD OF COMPUTER USE

BY AL FASOLDT

Staff Writer

Can your computer hurt you?

Five years ago, this would have been a silly question. But recently, many computer users have begun to notice stiffness and pain in their wrists and hands.

The stiffness can even turn to an actual injury. In its worst case, the injury can make it impossible to move your hands.

The name for this problem, caused by repetitive typing on keyboards, is "cumulative trauma disorder." When the stiffness turns into injury, the most common injury is called carpal tunnel syndrome.

It's a serious matter. Both my wrists are injured from carpal tunnel

syndrome, and there are times when they hurt too much to let me type. Two of the editors I work with suffer from it, too.

The problem has been around a long time. The old name for carpal tunnel syndrome was "jackhammerer's syndrome" -- an indication that workers who operate those large mechanical hammers were the first to complain to doctors.

In both jackhammer operation and keyboard typing, the wrists can be flexed hundreds or thousands of times in rapid, jerky movements. After years of this sort of abuse, nerves and cartilage can become pinched inside the wrist.

Carpal tunnel syndrome can be avoided in two ways -- by changing your typing style (holding your wrists steady while putting all the motion in your fingers) and by using a keyboard and typing table that make easy typing possible.

If you feel stiffness in your wrists or a tingling feeling in your hands and fingers while typing or after you've used your computer, be sure to mention the problem to a doctor. Sometimes treatment can be as simple as wearing a wrist brace for a few hours a week. But if you delay, the problem will only get worse.

\*\*\*\*\*

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KEYBOARD WORK CAN HURT

By Al Fasoldt

Staff Writer

I want to buy a new gadget. You may think it's silly, but ever since I saw it advertised, I've wanted it.

It's an electric pepper mill. You push a button on the top, and it grinds out your pepper at the dinner table. You don't have to twist it at all.

Don't laugh. This isn't one of those old Bob Newhart electric-fork jokes. An electric pepper mill is a real thing - and very much needed around my house.

Both my wife and I have carpal tunnel syndrome, caused by an adult lifetime of typing on keyboards.

WE'RE BOTH EDITORS, and I'm a writer and computer programmer. She types faster and harder than I do, and I type for longer periods each day. The result has been steady damage to our wrists, concentrated in the tunnels that provide a passageway for the nerves, arteries and tendons that run from our arms to our hands.

What happens is a progressive narrowing of the tunnels until they choke off the passageway. The constant pressure can make both hands immobile.

Some days are worse than others. On the good days, carpal tunnel syndrome shows up as nothing more than a tingling numbness along the

edge of the palm. On the bad days, the wrist swells up from pain and locks up. Even the slightest movement is impossible when that happens.

WE EACH HAVE wrist braces, supplied free by the company we work for, and the ergonomics experts - specialists in adapting working spaces and equipment to workers - who interviewed everyone at the office have prompted the purchase of new chairs. And we now have wrist rests on some of the keyboards we type on.

But the problem has not gone away. It is an occupational hazard.

In the late 1800s, doctors used to call carpal tunnel syndrome "jackhammerer's disease." The rapid pogo-stick-like jerking motion of a jackhammer can wreck a worker's wrists in a couple of years.

Later, as the technology of the work force changed, carpal tunnel syndrome was referred to as the "secretary's disease." But now, with computer keyboards common in many homes and most offices, anyone who types for long periods can succumb.

THE FIRST DOCTOR I went to when I felt a numbness on the edges of my palms, eight years ago, told me I had a case of tennis elbow in my wrists.

"Stop playing tennis and racquetball for a while," he said.

Since I hadn't played tennis or racquetball in about 15 years, I found another doctor. This one knew a little more about modern injuries. She diagnosed the problem after a couple of quick tests.

At my last checkup, another doctor looked at the medical history form I had filled out and asked how long I had been using a computer. He looked at me in a strange way, as if he were going to share an embarrassing secret, and told me he, too, had carpal tunnel syndrome.

YOU MAY HAVE it, too. One estimate that I saw placed the number of possible sufferers at 20 million in the United States alone. Of that number, the study said, 80 percent - that's 16 million - may not realize what is causing their pain and stiffness.

If you have the kind of pain or discomfort I'm describing, tell your doctor to check for carpal tunnel syndrome and other hand-disabling problems that can result from keyboard work, such as tendinitis. And find ways to give your wrists a break when you are typing. You may even want to have the doorknobs at your home or office changed to levers so that you don't have to do a lot of twisting. There are many other things that can be done; your health insurance company should have some tips.

And you might look, as I'm doing, for that electric pepper mill. Some gadgets are just plain common sense.

-----

From the Jerry Pournelle RT - Category 4, Topic 6 - Messages 332-340...

R.CHUANG [Raymond]...

...I'm now seeing the new Maxtor 7213A (nice drive, IMHO) sold for

around \$350 or so. Uses the same drive parameters (16 heads, 683 cylinders, no write-precomp, landing zone 683 and sectors/track 38) as the Maxtor LXT-213A and Conner CP-3204F.

B.NASH [BNASH]...

...I am not familiar with Maxtor's designations. What is the capacity of the 7213A?

V.PUNKKA [Gmalu]...

Could the Maxtor 7213A be a 213 MB drive? At least my 7120AT is a 120 MB one.

R.CHUANG [Raymond]...

...the Maxtor 7213A has a formatted capacity of around 212 MB.

-----

From the Jerry Pournelle RT - Category 4, Topic 16 - Message 287...

===== ALERT - Major computer viruses on the loose! =====

George Bush virus - Doesn't do anything, but you can't get rid of it until November.

Ted Kennedy virus - crashes your computer, but denies it ever happened.

Warren Commission virus - won't allow you to open your files for 75 years.

Jerry Brown virus - blanks your screen and begins flashing an 800 number.

David Duke virus - Makes your screen go completely white.

Congress virus - overdraws your disk space.

Pat Buchanan virus - shifts all output to the extreme right of the screen and prohibits importation of any new files.

Dan Quayle virus - forces your computer to play "PGA Tour" from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm six days a week.

Bill Clinton virus - mutates from region to region - we're not exactly sure what it does.

Richard Nixon virus - a.k.a. the "Tricky Dicky virus" - you can kick it out, but it always makes a comeback.

H. Ross Perot virus - same as the Jerry Brown virus, but with nicer fonts and it appears to have had a lot more money put into its development.

Andre' Marrou virus - erases unnecessary programs, disconnects your network and makes yours a stand-alone machine, abolishes shared resources, and improves productivity by eliminating limits on resource allocation.

The above virus bulletin is from the MN Libertarian May-June newsletter.

-----  
From the Atari-ST RoundTable - Category 14, Topic 11 - Message 146 -  
from V.PATRICELL1 [Vince]....

I am not aware of anyone who will refill the toner carts for the SLM804.  
I guess the cost would be about the same, though, because the cart  
itself is just a inexpensive piece of plastic.

However, E. Arthur Brown (1-800-322- 4405) will rebuild the SLM 804 drum  
unit for you. You must send them both your old drum and toner hopper  
assembly and they will completely clean the toner hopper assembly and  
give an anti-static treatment to the magnetic dispersant roller. Then  
they empty and vacuum the excess toner auger assembly, clean and anti-  
static treat the wiper blades, apply a de-oxidizing treatment to the  
drum surface and buff to a mirror finish. All this for only \$39.95 and  
they will re-do it within 90 days if you are not completely satisfied.

I have never tried this since I was reluctant to send in my toner hopper  
and be without my laser for a couple of weeks, but they advertise this  
in their catalog. I have ordered software from them and find them very  
reliable, though.

From the Atari-ST RoundTable - Category 18, Topic 20 - Message 89 - from  
C.KLIMUSHYN

Greetings All,

Since it's almost been a year to the day that I smugly left the Atari  
World for DOS it's fitting I write this letter. I return from the dark  
side battered, bruised, and broke.

It's not that I couldn't handle the PC's operation. I learned to write  
my own config.sys and autoexec.bat files, I learned the difference  
between expanded and extended memory (when is a 1 meg of RAM not a meg  
of RAM <grin>), and I even had DR. DOS' graphic interface Viewmax (which  
is stripped down GEM anyway) doing a reasonable imitation of my ST.

The problem was I always needed one more thing, be it a soundcard or an  
extra meg of RAM. The last straw came when I found myself walking out of  
a tradeshow with a new motherboard to replace the one in my eight month  
old computer so I could run Wing Commander II "smoothly."

I really don't care if another program ever comes out for the ST, I'm  
content with my system as it is. If Falcon comes out and looks like it  
will give me another 4 years of minimal needs to upgrade like my faith-  
ful ST, I will strongly consider buying one no matter if the rest of the  
world has gone DOS-Mad.

-----  
More on "Modem Addictus" from the Jerry Pournelle RT - Category 4, Topic  
40 - Message 61...

KSPROUSE [Ken],

I not only have "modem addictus" I also have information OVERFLOW! There  
are TONS of things on GENIE that I would like to be reading both in the  
Round Tables and here in \*BASIC service bulletin boards. On top of this  
I do have internet access and even with only a small sub-set of netnews





Buying Federated for \$67 million, losing \$124 million in the first year and putting his son Garry - then in his mid-20's - in charge.

Holding back the 7800 Prosystem videogame for 18 months and then deciding to upgrade an older system that couldn't compete with Nintendo. When Atari did release the Model 7800 in '86 they spent about \$300,000 to promote it while Nintendo and Sega spent \$15 million each promoting their systems. Now Nintendo has 80% of the market.

Even when Atari finally came out with the Lynx, according to the author a superior system to Nintendo's Gameboy unit, Atari again went the cheap route and spent almost nothing on national advertising. Also, because Atari had cut their software development to almost nothing, there were only 4-5 games for the Lynx compared to more than 80 for the Gameboy. Atari's cheapness helped result in the Gameboy today having 81% of the market and 16,000 outlets, while the Lynx has 3% of the market and available in less than 3,000 stores.

Another example he gives of the T's cheapness is the confidential memo to Sam T. that was leaked. The one where Gary T. refused to allow computer games president (at that time) Michael Katz to spend \$54 to air freight two game cartridges to an important large client. And how Atari employees say that Jack T. checks expense accounts to make sure tips don't exceed 15%.

The article's author tells how Jack bought Atari for \$240 million in promissory notes and built up the sales to just under \$500 million by '87 and how the stock traded at 16 in the same year. Then he shows that the sales were down to \$258 million last year and the stock now trades in the 1 5/8 range. Not only was last year bad, he says that this year (so far) will be worse. Atari had losses of \$14 million on \$44 million in sales for the first quarter and (according to company sources), the second quarter will be even worse. He also tells how 27 Atari exec's have either been fired or resigned in the past 30 months. How since Atari lost the Nintendo suit, that Jack T. has taken day-to-day operations away from Sam and is in charge of the company himself. He even took over Sam's 'fancy corner office' and moved Sam into a normal office, next to purchasing.

Let's see, what else...according to the author, Atari's European sales have 'collapsed' (to use his word) to \$209 million last year - this was in comparison to \$342 million in '90.

He does talk about the Falcon 030 and the Jaguar. But according to him, industry sources say that Atari needs at least \$40 million in promotions to give them a real chance to succeed and that's about all the cash that Atari has on hand. Plus, Atari needs \$24 million a year just to meet its normal operating overhead.

He quotes one anonymous Atari official as saying, "The Tramiels are not stupid. But their formula for success worked only once. They are not adaptable people."

My personal opinion is the author isn't going to be investing any of his money in Atari stock anytime in the near future.

---

> STReport CONFIDENTIAL "Rumors Tidbits Predictions Observations Tips"  
"\*\*\*\*\*"

- Chicago, IL  
-----

MacSEE 2.0 SHIPPING!

MacSEE 2.0 will commence shipping on Monday, July 27, 1992. It is our utility for both reading and writing to/from a Macintosh HFS formatted disk. Supported media types include 800K Spectre format floppies, 1.44 Meg Mac floppies, Spectre GCR format HD partitions, and Mac formatted hard disks including removables such as SyQuest drives formatted with standard apple, PLI, Disk Manager, and QuikCore formatted packages (and probably others).

The program sports a GEM user interface, and is capable of dealing with both MacBinary files and raw Mac files. MacBinary is used when you wish to be able to transfer a file back to the Mac and keep it intact. Raw Translation is used for transferring data (i.e. TIFF pics, Postscript files, SoundTracker MOD...etc). Retail price is \$59.95 and through August 6, '92 we will be running a special for all pre-paid orders received (up to 25) at \$39.95.

- Sunnyvale, CA  
-----

WHERE IS SAM?

According to our inside source, the representations made in the Forbes article are absolutely accurate. So much so, that a parallel was drawn on one incident related in that article. It seems something quite similar occurred in 1977 at Commodore when Jack was in charge. He sent his oldest son Sam on an extended leave to "mull things over". Sam is on an extended vacation at this time. In the meantime, the flitting stories around the office is a few heads will roll very shortly and resumes are flying furiously. Also, more cost cutting measures are about to take place. It is said that any expense not directly connected with the new products and their delivery will not exist.

- Santa Fe, NM  
-----

NETWORKS READY TO DROP ATARI CONNECTS

Reports are filtering in that Ataris relay connects are close to dropping the connections even though Atari is footing all the long distance charges. It seems a large number of the connecting nodes are beginning to realize the network is being polarized and divided by the actions of Atari's Director of "Communications". The Atari Explorer Online Conference has seen a number of nodes "locked out" recently and this action by Atari's Director of Communications (Conference Leader) is seen by many as an act of vengeance and serving no useful purpose at all except to cause further separation in the network and ill-will for Atari Corp. on an International level.

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